

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 01109 301538 Z

52

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01 OMB-01 STR-08 CEA-02

NIC-01 CAB-09 FAA-00 ACDA-19 GAC-01 SAJ-01 MBFR-03

/209 W

----- 065412

R 301426 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9839

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 1109

E. O. 11 652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, SW, CH

SUBJECT: SWEDISH TRADE TALKS WITH CHINESE

REF: STOCKHOLM 0398

1. IN CONVERSATION MARCH 30 WITH ECON COUNSELOR, FYDFORS (MFA) WAS ASKED ABOUT FIRST MEETING OF SWEDISH/ CHINESE MIXED ECONOMIC COMMISSION IN PEKING EARLY THIS MONTH. FYDFORS HEADED SEVEN- MAN SWEDISH DELEGATION. CHINESE DELEGATION WAS HEADED BY HEAD OF WESTERN EUROPE AND AMERICAN DIVISION OF MINISTRY OF TRADE. FYDFORS DESCRIBED TALKS AS USEFUL ALTHOUGH ROUTINE WITH NO NEW DECISIONS BEING TAKEN. SWEDES INVITED CHINESE TO COME TO STOCKHOLM FOR NEXT MEETING IN SPRING 1974.

2. DURING TALKS, WHICH LASTED FOUR DAYS, LONG AGENDA OF TRADE SUBJECTS WAS DISCUSSED ITEM BY ITEM. AT END, SWEDES HANDED OVER
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PAGE 02 STOCKH 01109 301538 Z

SUMMARY OF WHAT THEY HAD SAID TO MAKE SURE THEY WERE UNDERSTOOD. RYDFORS SAID IT CLEAR CHINESE ARE STILL FEELING THEIR WAY ALONG IN DEALING WITH WESTERN COUNTRIES, AND APPARENTLY ARE IN NOT GREAT HURRY TO EXPAND TRADE. CHINESE TRADE MINISTRY OFFICIALS ADMITTED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT " MINISTRY HAS ONLY TWO TYPEWRITERS, LOCATED IN BASEMENT, AND NO SECRETARIES".

3. HE SAID THAT CHINESE HANGUP ON FOREIGN CREDIT CONTINUES. THEY REFUSE TO USE TERM " CREDIT", PREFERRING INSTEAD " DELAYED PAYMENT" WHICH CAN RUN UP TO FIVE YEARS FOR HEAVY EQUIPMENT. THEY SAY THEY WILL NOT IN ANY CASE PAY INTEREST OF " MORE THAT 4 OR 5 PERCENT". AT SAME TIME, THEY MAKE CONSIDERABLE USE OF SHORT- TERM FINANCING BY FOREIGN BANKS.

4. RYDFORS SAID THAT QUESTION OF AIR SERVICES WAS DISCUSSED BUT NOT IN DEPTH. SAS HAS HAD TALKS WITH CHINESE AND WILL HAVE ANOTHER ROUND LATER THIS SPRING. HE DID NOT THINK SAS WANTED TO TAKE ON FINANCIAL BURDEN OF A PEKING ROUTE ANY TIME SOON. OLSEN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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HELSINKI
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